

Benjamin Tupper was born in Sharon Mar 11 1738

He was the youngest of eight children seven sons and one daughter. He was apprenticed to a tanner by the name of Wilkingto in Dorchester ten until he was sixteen years old. After leaving Dorchester he worked on a farm of Joshua Howard in Easton with whom he continued to reside the most of his time until he was married.

At the commencement of the French war he engaged as a private soldier in the army most of the time for two or three years. Except the winter of 1756-7 when he acted as Clerk of a company in the Eastern arm. He taught the district School two or three winters during or soon after the war.

He was married in Easton Nov. 181762 to Hulda White with whom he had long been acquainted. She was a woman of extraordinary talents eminently fitted for the trials and difficulties through which they were called to pass in the latter period of life. She died at Springfield now Putnam Ohio on the 21 of Feb. 1819.

At the commencement of the Revolution Gen. Tupper was a Lieut. of the militia at Chesterfield. His first military duty was stopping the Supreme Court under the authority of the Crown at Springfield under the command of Major Kneller of Northampton. In 1775 held the rank of Major of a Regiment of six month men near Boston.

While here he collected a number of boats for an expedition to Castle Island in Boston Harbor. They passed with muffled oars close to the British fleet and burnt the lighthouse brought off considerable light property and returned safe without the loss of a man.

the crew built the lighthouse and May 20. Tupper
burnt it the second time
after his return he wrote the following letter
to Gen Ward. Chelsea Wednesday 10 o'clock P.M

"Sir By Secret Shepherd you will receive two horses
and eleven head of Cattle taken from Governors Island
I obeyed orders in burning the Boat. If you should
think I went too much beyond in burning the house
hope you will suspend hard thoughts until I am so
happy as to see you

I was not so lucky as to find any of liberty
was so unhappy as to a number of horses on the Island
which I conceive I can give a sufficient reason
for my party is all well, in good spirits, the wind very
high, shall return to Camp as soon as possible
— must humbly beg the favor of the Sorrel horse
if you judge in your known candor that I deserve
him. . As the cattle too were not taken in the enemy's
camp I conceive they belong to the party

I am with the highest esteem your honor's most
obedient humble servant Benjn Tupper

To the Hon Gen Ward. In Washington letters Vol II P 20
the following account of one of these expeditions will
be found the second destruction of the lighthouse

See in another account

The following winter an incident occurred which serves
to illustrate the character of Gen Tupper for cool deliberate
courage which he possessed in an eminent degree

"Three men were out in a boat ^{in Boston Harbor} fishing the winter
shifted and ^{were broken}冰块上 their way completely
their situation was one of great danger — The wind
blew severely cold and ^{men} the ^{men} must have perished in
sight of thousands had not Gen Tupper ^{appeared and taken} taken three ^{and} the order
three pairs of Snow Shoes, putting on one pair and taking
one pair under each arm made his way for the boat
over the floating ice fitting a pair to the feet of the two men
and encouraging the other brought them all safe to the shore

In 1776 Gen Tupper commanded a Regiment of six months men, Tupper and his own Regiments ^{were} brought ~~of~~ of Governor's Island without the loss of a man near N.Y.

The next material event in which Gen Tupper was engaged in August 1776 when he was sent in command of a number of gunboats upon North river. Gen Washington makes honorable mention of this engagement as follows

The Inclosed copy of a letter from Col Tupper who had the general command of the Galleys will inform Congress of the engagement between them and the ships of war of the North river on Saturday evening and of the damage sustained what injury they sustained I am not informed It is said they were hulled several times by our fleet all accounts agree that our officers and men during the whole affair behaved with great spirit and bravery. The damage done our galley shows they had a warm time of it. —

In the campaign of 1777 Col Tupper served with the regiment in the Northern army under Gates what part he took in the battle of Bemis heights is not known he was at a council after the battle — upon the left wing which fell back half a mile was held until after Burgoyne surrendered

In 1778 Col Tupper served under Gen Washington at the battle of Monmouth June 28th when he had a horse shot under him

In 1780 he had charge of the work of preparing and stretching a chain across the Hudson at West Point

In May 1781 Col Tupper returned to his family on furlough

In the campaign of 1781 the Indian and refugees in Northern New York threatened the Northern families a regiment of Massachusetts troops were sent up to

that Quarter Gen Stark sent for Reinforcement
and Tupper and Rensselaer of New York were sent
while they were waiting for the enemy the news
of Cornwallis's surrender reached them ^{about} at the close
of the war Col Tupper was appointed to the rank of
Brigadier General by Brevet.

During the darkest period of the Revolutionary
war Gen Washington had turned the attention of
officers and green soldiers to the Valley of the Ohio
as a ^{place of} refuge to which they might retire should the
British army be successful against them

The result of the war rendered such a retreat
unnecessary, notwithstanding many of the officers and
soldiers of the army looked to the west as a safe retreat
for themselves and families after the war

In 1785 Gen Rufus Putnam had been appointed
to survey the land but being engaged elsewhere
Gen Tupper came as far west as Pittsburg he returned
home in the winter of 1785 & 6 but left in June
the same year 1786 with his Eldest son Major
Anselm Tupper — They published in a paper —

As a result a company was formed the Ohio
Company —

when Gen Tupper returned from the west
after completing the survey of seven ranges

Shay's Insurrection broke out. The duty of calling
out the militia devolved on Gen Shepherd who
acted under the Governor's orders. Gen Tupper offered
his services as voluntary aid. Fifteen from Chester
offered their service. Gen Tupper had been appointed
a Justice of the Peace two years previous and as a
magistrate administered the oath of allegiance
and after arriving at Springfield under orders of
Gen. Shepherd took charge of the organization of the
different companies as they arrived

He organised a small troop of horse under
Capt Buffington

By some means Tupper obtained a letter containing
the plan of attack on the part of Shays Gen Supper
went to work and fortified the place

Shays although repeatedly warned not to approach
advanced Cannon were fired over his troops
but this was disregarded. At last a field piece
was brought to bear upon the insurgents. and
the first shot killed four. They immediately broke
rank and fled

Gen Supper began his ^{own} arrangements for
moving to the Ohio in the summer of 1787
Two wagons were built one for the family one for the
baggage with his own family including that of
his soninly Ichabod Nye they made their way
to the Ohio river at wellsburg/Buffalo

Judge Supper presided as Justice of the
Courts until his death in 1792 June

In early life Gen Supper made a public
profession of the Christian religion uniting with
the church at Easton May

Gen Supper had seven children
three Sons and four Daughters

From Northampton Creek to Greenbush my
way, through a wilderness with but one house
the whole distance except a little fort #788

after leaving the marched off silently
the distance to Hoosack fort was about 30 miles
the snow was deep; the second day was a snow
storm they became bewildered and encamped
two turkeys were killed during the day but the
day passed and they believed they were lost
the fourth day the march was continued
the weather was excessively cold on fifth day
the men froze their feet. It happened they
had with them one dog and only one
At night they concluded to kill him for
supper on the morning of the seventh day
the men breakfasted on one of the dogs
and they supped on the thigh bone of the dog
on the eighth day they met some men from
the fort who been looking for them





